

Office of the Attorney General Paul G. Summers

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Aug. 14, 2003 #03-16 CONTACT: Sharon Curtis-Flair (615) 741-5860

TENNESSEE CARDIZEM CD CONSUMERS MAY BENEFIT FROM MAJOR CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT

If you took the medication Cardizem® CD or its generic equivalents between 1998-2003, you probably paid too much and you may be entitled to money from a \$21 million national settlement fund.

The fund created as part of a proposed settlement of a antitrust lawsuit brought by the Attorneys General of all 50 states, Puerto Rico and the District of Columbia. The case alleges that the drug makers violated antitrust laws and overcharged consumers purchasing Cardizem® CD or its generic equivalents (generally used to treat hypertension and angina). Defendants have denied any wrongdoing or liability.

"It's extremely important for Tennesseans to act quickly in this matter," Tennessee Attorney General Paul G. Summers said. "If you think you may be entitled to a reimbursement, you must file a claim before September 23."

More information on claims can be obtained at www.cardizemsettlement.com or by calling 1-800-372-2406. The rights of over a million consumers could be affected by this case. The \$80 million settlement provides approximately \$21 million to reimburse consumers some portion of what they paid for these drugs. Tennessee's share is estimated at \$450,000.

Consumers who purchased Cardizem® CD or any of its AB3-rated generic equivalents from January 1, 1998 through January 29, 2003, can file a claim for recovery. The proposed settlement is subject to court review.